

File# FO 77 O (3) — Vilas County - 39.3 acres

The Department acquired this property from the U.S. Government in 1908. The property file indicates there is a deed restriction on the property limiting its use to a forest reserve. The property has approximately 876 feet of two-bank frontage along Pine Creek, and approximately 1,991 feet of shoreline frontage on Pine Lake. The Department has made investments in the property by planting Wild rice in the lake as well as Beaver dam removals to control water levels for Wild rice. Federal Duck Stamp moneys were used for the Wild rice plantings for wood ducks. This area is in the priority 1 Wild Rice Habitat Focus Area from the North American Waterfowl Management Plan—Upper Mississippi River and Great Lakes Region Joint Venture-Wisconsin Waterfowl Plan (NAWMP-JV-WI plan).

The Rainbow Springs pond, located just to the North of this parcel, is a class I trout stream, and the headwater of pine creek. The connectivity of this parcel means it is likely that trout are found here too. Many of the pondweed species found are indicators of high quality water. Wild rice and large colonies of fresh water sponges exist on the property.

Because there is no road access, use is limited to those that have private adjoining land and the general public is restricted to legal access from the river. However canoe and kayak access is viable and offers both high aesthetic value and high recreational value. The public can park along Dads Lake road with very easy canoe access to the parcel.

The Department recommends retaining this parcel.

